

weighed 483 grammes. An X-ray examination revealed no bony involvement. Tissue for culture was sent back to Mr. A. H. Heather, to the Sevenoaks Hospital and material for section was also submitted at the same time.

A direct smear showed many organisms of various types as might be expected from its visits to the garbage dump of a big city, but no *M. tuberculosis* were found. Culture grew some Acid-Alcohol fast bacilli, but protracted subculture, for which we are indebted to Dr. A. McDiarmid of the Agricultural Research Council, failed to establish the condition as tuberculous.

Dr. Keith Randall, Consulting Pathologist to the Sevenoaks Hospital reported that the "section shows a simple chondroma, being composed of ill-formed irregular cartilage throughout the section examined".

This case would evidently appear to be one of a simple chondroma in view of Dr. Randall's report, and the few Acid-Alcohol fast bacilli found at the primary culture are to be regarded as contaminants.

Our thanks are due to Dr. Keith Randall, Consulting Pathologist, Dr. Hugh Hay, Consulting Radiologist to the Sevenoaks Hospital, to Dr. McDiarmid and to Mr. A. H. Heather for the above investigations.

A European Green-winged Teal with a white neck-ring

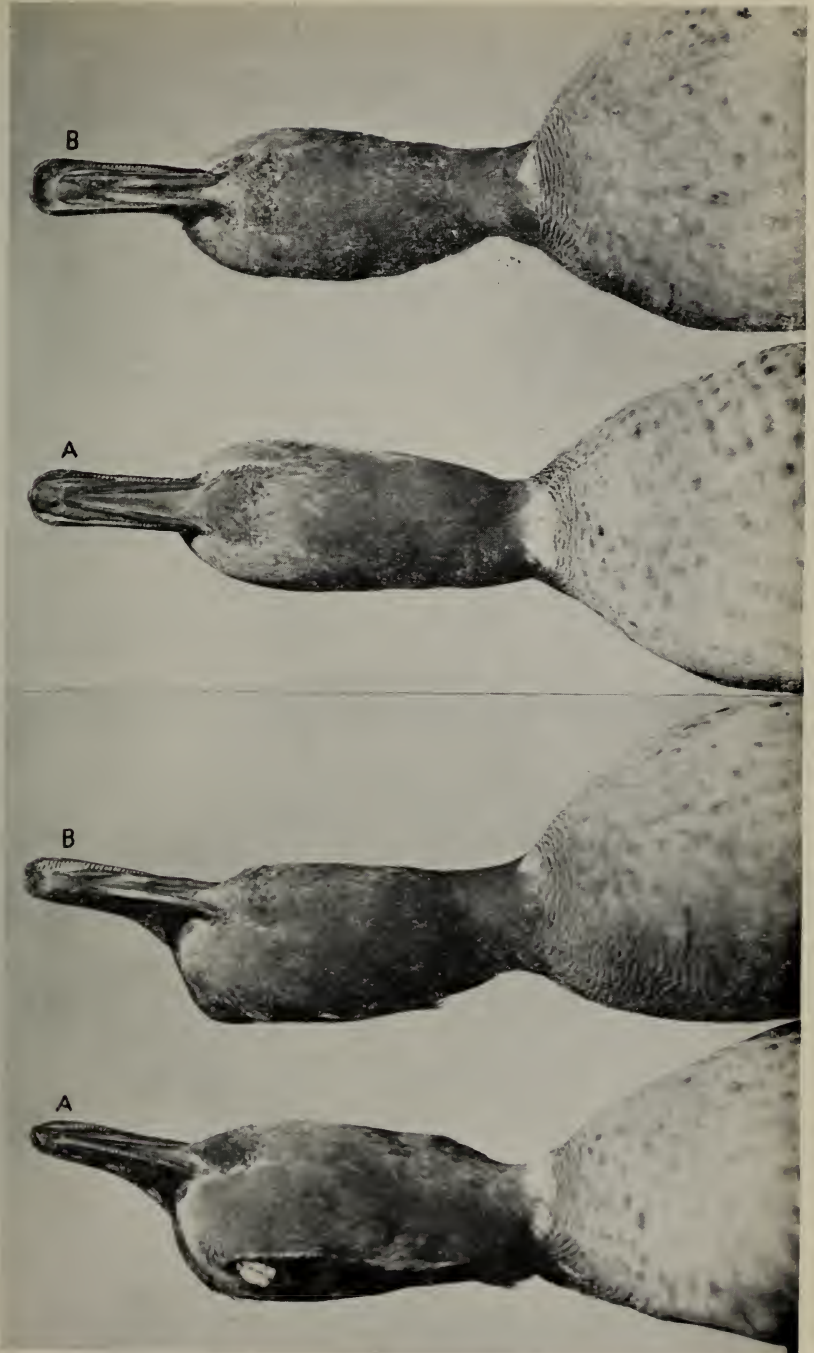
by JAMES M. AND JEFFERY G. HARRISON

Received 5th December, 1961

In a previous paper (Harrison, 1958) we drew attention to an homologous recurring character in drakes of the European Green-winged Teal, *Anas crecca crecca* Linnaeus, and the Yellow-billed Teal, *Anas flavirostris flavirostris* Vieillot, in the form of a white spot, as a rule slightly triangular in shape, at the root of the neck anteriorly. In this paper we listed six examples of this mutation. More recently we have also suggested that this white neck-spot was homologous to the white semi-ring of the drake Mallard, *Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos* Linnaeus, (Harrison, 1961), being a minimal expression of the character.

Our latest example to be described is a fully adult drake European Green-winged Teal, which was shot on 5th November, 1961 on the Medway Estuary, Kent, by Mr. Charles Swan. The remarkable thing about this bird is that the white marking has assumed the character of the white semi-ring of the drake Mallard. As can be seen from the photograph, (specimen A) the white marking extends well onto the sides of the neck. It is the same shape although not quite so extensive as in the Mallard, moreover it is proportionate to the size of the bird. For comparison, the specimen is shown beside one with the more usual white neck-spot variant, (specimen B) a first winter drake shot on the Medway Estuary, Kent on 18th November, 1961. A further example, almost as extensive as on specimen A, but not included in the photograph, was shot by Mr. Ross Young near Kenmare, Co. Kerry, Eire on 2nd December, 1961.

We would submit that this specimen fully confirms our contention set out above and that this homologous recurring character is to be regarded as of reversionary significance, suggesting a close affinity between the Mallard and the European Green-winged Teal.



Our thanks are due to Mr. Swan and Mr. Young for presenting us with these remarkable birds.

References:

- Harrison, James M. and Jeffery G. (1958). "The White Neck-spot Variant in the European Green-winged Teal and the Yellow-billed Teal". *Bull. B.O.C.* Vol. 78. pp. 104-105.
- Harrison, James M. and Jeffery G. (1961). "Albinistic patterning in the Mallard, Muscovy, Mandarin and Salvadori's Ducks". *Ibid* Vol. 81. pp. 168-172.

Notes on the distribution and eggs of some waterfowl

by C. J. O. HARRISON

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During a recent rearrangement of the eggs of the Anseriformes in the collection of the British Museum (Natural History) use was made of Delacour's "Waterfowl of the World" (1954-8). It was found that some of the data slips with the eggs gave information supplementary to that quoted in Delacour's work.

Anser cygnoides (L). Delacour, when tracing the earliest records of this species in captivity, suspected that the birds kept at the London Zoo in 1863 were not the wild Swan Goose but its domesticated form, the Chinese Goose. These suspicions were well founded for eggs laid at the London Zoo during this period and now in the Museum collection are mostly inscribed "Black-legged Chinese Goose", indicating that the domestic bird was kept there at this time.

Anser albifrons albifrons (Scopoli). Two eggs of this species (B. M. no. 1925. 12. 25. 5346-5) from the Davidson collection are accompanied by the following data in J. Davidson's catalogue—

"Two out of a clutch of four taken on Franz Josef Land (Cape Chance) 21. 6. 98, and sent to me by Mr. Dobbie. Taken Lunderstrand by Dr. W. S. Bruce."

Delacour's map of the distribution of this species does not show the breeding range extending thus far into the Arctic.

Coscoroba coscoroba (Molina). Four well-authenticated clutches of the eggs of this species (B. M. no. 1913. 5. 7. 57-63; 1920. 12. 3. 568-574, 575-581, 582-589) were taken in the Buenos Aires province of Argentina by Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Gibson. One is dated 29th June 1889, and another 18th August 1915.

There are two other clutches of this species with less adequate data inscribed "Rio Grande do Sul". One, of six eggs, is from Dr. Ihering's collection, the other, of two eggs, from the P. Crowley collection, ex Gerrard, and both would have been collected in the nineteenth century and may have originally formed a single clutch.

Delacour's map of the breeding distribution sets the northern limit of this species at the Rio Negro, but all the eggs mentioned were collected well north of this. In view of the date of the clutches it seems possible that this may represent a shrinking of the breeding range due to the spread of civilisation in this part of South America.

Anser coerulescens coerulescens (L.). A clutch of five eggs was taken by M. D. Smith at Great Slave Lake in Canada on 26th June 1884. (B. M. no. 1901. 11. 15. 651-5). Delacour does not show this species breeding south of the Great Bear Lake, farther north.

Branta canadensis asiatica Aldrich. It is stated that the eggs of this